

ERNEST F. HOLLINGS, SOUTH CAROLINA  
PAUL S. SARBANES, MARYLAND  
PATTY MURRAY, WASHINGTON  
RON WYDEN, OREGON  
RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD, WISCONSIN  
TIM JOHNSON, SOUTH DAKOTA  
ROBERT C. BYRD, WEST VIRGINIA  
BILL NELSON, FLORIDA  
DEBBIE STABENOW, MICHIGAN  
HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, NEW YORK  
JON S. CORZINE, NEW JERSEY

PETE V. DOMENICI, NEW MEXICO  
CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, IOWA  
DON NICKLES, OKLAHOMA  
PHIL GRAMM, TEXAS  
CHRISTOPHER S. BOND, MISSOURI  
JUDD GREGG, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
OLYMPIA J. SNOWE, MAINE  
BILL FRIST, TENNESSEE  
GORDON SMITH, OREGON  
WAYNE ALLARD, COLORADO  
CHUCK HAGEL, NEBRASKA

MARY ANN NAYLOR, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR  
G. WILLIAM HOAGLAND, STAFF DIRECTOR

<http://www.senate.gov/~budget/>

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6100

October 15, 2002

Dear Colleague:

On Wednesday, October 16, the Senate will begin debate on the renewal of key Senate budget enforcement rules that expired at the end of last month. Along with Senators Feingold and Gregg, we believe it is crucial that these enforcement rules be reinstated.

The bipartisan Senate resolution includes:

1. A one-year extension of the provision requiring 60 votes in the Senate to waive 14 Congressional Budget Act and Balanced Budget Emergency Deficit Control Act points of order. The extension would continue the 60-vote waiver of these points of order against legislation that would, among other things, decrease the Social Security surplus, increase spending, or cut taxes beyond levels specified in the most recent budget resolution.
2. A one-year extension of the Senate pay-as-you-go rule that has been in effect since 1993. This Senate rule requires 60 votes to waive a point of order raised against direct spending or tax cut legislation that would increase the deficit, further tapping into the Social Security surplus. In addition, the resolution extends the pay-as-you-go rule to mandatory spending items added to appropriations bills. This is necessary because there is no allocation to the Appropriations Committee for fiscal year 2003.

Without the extension of these expired provisions, we truly believe that budgetary discipline in the Senate will be in serious jeopardy. This is the absolute minimum we should do.

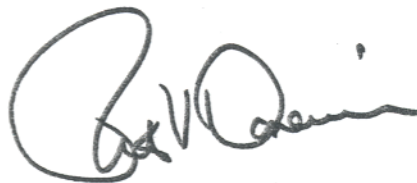
Clearly, this resolution is not everything that either of us would like to accomplish. This resolution differs from one voted on earlier this summer. This resolution applies only to Senate deliberations (instead of being statutory), it extends the rules for one year (instead of five), and it contains no statutory appropriation spending caps.

Please support us with an overwhelming bipartisan vote for this resolution. Let us demonstrate to the American public that the U.S. Senate has not abandoned budget discipline.

Sincerely,



Kent Conrad  
Chairman



Pete V. Domenici  
Ranking Member